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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Anthony et al.

Art Unit: 2827

Serial No.: 09/647,648

Examiner: Norris, Jeremy C.

Filed: November 17, 2000

Date: June 7, 2002

For: COMPONENT CARRIER

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

#91Ac13
T.BELL
7/16/02

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

This paper is filed responsive to the Office Action mailed February 14, 2002. As this response is filed within four months of the mailing date, a one-month extension fee is believed to be due at this time and is included herein. If any additional fees are required, please consider this a petition for payment of them and charge them to Deposit Account 15-0450.

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AMENDMENTS

In the Specification:

Please replace the first paragraph of the Specification entitled Technical Field with the following:

Technical Field

This application is a national stage application of international application

PCT/US99/07653 filed April 6, 1999. This application is a continuation-in-part of application

Serial No. 09/056,436 filed April 7, 1998, currently pending, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. application 09/008,769 filed January 19, 1998, now U.S. Patent 6,097,581 which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application 08/841,940, filed April 8, 1997, now U.S. Patent 5,909,305. This application also claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/101,511 filed September 23, 1998 and U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/103,759 filed October 9, 1998. The present invention relates to electronic component carriers used in the manufacture of electronic equipment. More specifically, the invention relates to component carrier substrates used to protect electronic components from mechanical stresses associated with their handling and coupling within electronic equipment. The component carrier substrates also provide electrical interference shielding and improved thermal characteristics.

Please add the following Abstract at the end of the Specification on a new sheet:

Abstract of the Disclosure

The present invention is a component carrier comprising a plate of insulating material having a plurality of apertures for accepting the leads of a thru-hole differential and common mode filter. Another embodiment comprises a surface mount component carrier comprised of a disk of insulating material having a plurality of apertures. The same concept for the above described carrier is also incorporated into several alternate embodiments, either independently or embedded within electronic connectors, or configured for use with electric motors. The overall configuration and electrical characteristics of the concepts underlying the present inventions are also described as an electrical circuit conditioning assembly which encompasses the combination of differential and common mode filters and component carriers optimized for such filters. The

various embodiments of component carriers provide increased physical support and protection to differential and common mode filters and substantially improve the electrical characteristics of the filters due to the increased shielding provided by the carriers.

REMARKS

Claims 1-48 are pending in the present application. The Examiner has rejected claims 1-8 and has allowed claims 9-48. As a result of this response, the first paragraph of the specification has been amended to make a priority claim to overcome the Examiner's rejection and an Abstract has been added. No other changes have been made to the drawings, specification, or claims.

SPECIFICATION

The specification has now been amended to include an Abstract as required by 37 CFR 1.72(b).

DRAWINGS

Formal drawings are attached and submitted for approval.

CLAIM REJECTIONS 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Anthony (US 6,097,581). The Applicant traverses the Examiner's rejection by amending the priority of the present application to the same priority date of Anthony (US 6,097,581).

The present application is a national stage application of international application PCT/US99/07653 filed April 6, 1999 claiming priority to application Serial No. 09/056,436 filed April 7, 1998. The present application is in fact a continuation-in-part of the SN 09/056,436 application.

The SN 09/056,436 application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. application 09/008,769 filed January 19, 1998, now U.S. Patent 6,097,581 (the Examiner's referenced patent) which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application 08/841,940, filed April 8, 1997, now U.S. Patent 5,909,305.

Accordingly, the specification has now been amended to include the priority claim back to the April 8, 1997 filing date of U.S. Patent 5,909,305 which is the earliest priority date of the Examiner's referenced patent (Anthony) U.S. Patent 6,097,581 and the 35 U.S.C. §102(e) rejection is believed to be overcome.

While this amendment makes a priority claim to two patent applications that are now issued patents, it is noted that both of these applications were incorporated by reference in the present application as originally filed.

A new combined declaration/power of attorney is also enclosed referencing the above-mentioned priority claim.

ALLOWED CLAIMS

The applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's determination that claims 9-48 are in a condition of allowance.

Attached is a clean version of the changes made to the specification by the current amendment. The attached pages are captioned "**Clean Version Incorporating Changes Made**".

Respectfully Submitted,
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RJC/pam

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